

## Koch, Kristine

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**From:** Margaret Noel (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 09, 2016 5:52 PM  
**To:** Matt McClincy; Conley, Alanna; Janice Thompson; Koch, Kristine; barbara@harrisandsmith.com; bsallinger@audubonportland.org; rose@yakamafish-nsn.gov  
**Cc:** Debbie Aiona; Paulette Meyer  
**Subject:** Thank you for helping us inform the public about the Harbor Superfund

Dear Portland Harbor Superfund Speakers,

Thank you for helping organize our forum and/or speaking to our members and the public at our February League of Women Voters of Portland event on the Portland Harbor Superfund. I am sending you copies of the articles about the event that appeared in our newsletter.

I also have reviewed the evaluations that were turned in by audience members. They were almost all positive. Most rated your presentations as excellent; one rated the forum as good. A few had only comments. The comments included: "Good moderator"; "Very informative"; "We could have gone on for hours. Too bad we can't have the room all night!"; "This was a good introduction to a very complex issue, but much more information is needed for informed public comment. It was not made clear how audience members could ask questions. Thank you very much for putting this on."; "Encourage more participation in the excellent programs you pursue." and "I found it educational, enlightening and most important unbiased. Thanks to all the panelists, the Emcee--her knowledge was a benefit and all the volunteers who worked to make the night a success. I appreciate your efforts."

During the rest of the month, our members met in small groups (which we call "units") to discuss the Superfund issues. Several members have offered to attend and report back on the Information Sessions the EPA and CAG are offering, so that we will have more information to use for the public comment period.

Thank you for the introduction to the issues that you helped us provide.

Sincerely,

Margaret Noel  
President  
League of Women Voters of Portland  
503-228-1675 (office), 503-522-1620 (cell)

**February Civic Education:**  
**EPA Portland Harbor Superfund**



League Member Janice Thompson was the moderator for February's Civic Education program, "Cleaning up the Willamette: The Portland Harbor Superfund Site." The program was co-sponsored by Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon (CUB). The panel participants are pictured above, left to right.

Matt McClincy, Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality, Portland; Cami Grandinetti, Remedial Cleanup Program Manager in the Superfund Office, US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 10, Seattle; Kristine Koch, Project Manager in the EPA Superfund Program, Seattle; Janice Thompson, CUB; Rose Longoria, Regional Superfund Projects Coordinator at the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation; Barbara Smith, spokesperson for the Lower Willamette Group; Bob Sallinger, Audubon Society of Portland and on the Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group.

February's Civic Education program laid out the scale and complexity of what it will take to clean up the Portland Harbor. The audience heard from stakeholders across the spectrum, including the US Environmental Protection Agency Region 10, the Yakama Nation, the Lower Willamette Group, the Audubon Society of Portland, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, and the Remedial Cleanup Manager of the Superfund Office in Seattle.

The goals of the Superfund Cleanup are: to protect human health and the environment, encourage participation of the state and the tribes, provide opportunity for community involvement, and to make the polluter pay.

Historically, much of the pollution occurred prior to the institution of environmental laws. There are over 65 identified pollutants, such as heavy metals and polychlorinated biphenyls. Methods of remediation differ depending on the kind of pollution and its location, and can include dredging, capping, treating in situ, and dilution through use of the river's natural processes, also referred to as Monitored Natural Recovery (MNR). Clean-up will involve a combination of these methods, and will take into consideration the protection of human health and the environment, the time it will take for recovery, how it will affect the community, and the cost. The EPA has outlined seven combinations of treatments, ranging from doing nothing to doing what they consider the most aggressive action.

*If you missed this informative program, you can listen on our [YouTube channel](#).*

Civic Education + Units + Observers = Information for Action

The February Civic Education presentations reverberated throughout our units as members discussed the implications of the Portland Harbor cleanup, and proposed that we form teams of observers to monitor the community information sessions. If you are interested in being part of a team for LWVPDX, please contact **Debbie Aiona** to sign up to attend one or more of the following community information and discussion sessions. The period for discussion and comment is very short. The dates are listed below:

**Community Information and Discussion Sessions**

Thursday, March 3, Live webinar—online session. More information TBA

Thursday, March 17, 6 pm-8 pm, SE Multicultural Center, 4610 SE Belmont

Saturday, March 19, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 NE Knott St.

Saturday, March 26, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, OMSI, 1945 SE Water Ave.

**Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group Forums**

Tuesday, March 29, 7-9 pm, Location TBA

Tuesday, April 26, 7-9 pm, Portland Building Auditorium

*For more information, see the **Portland Harbor Superfund's website**.*